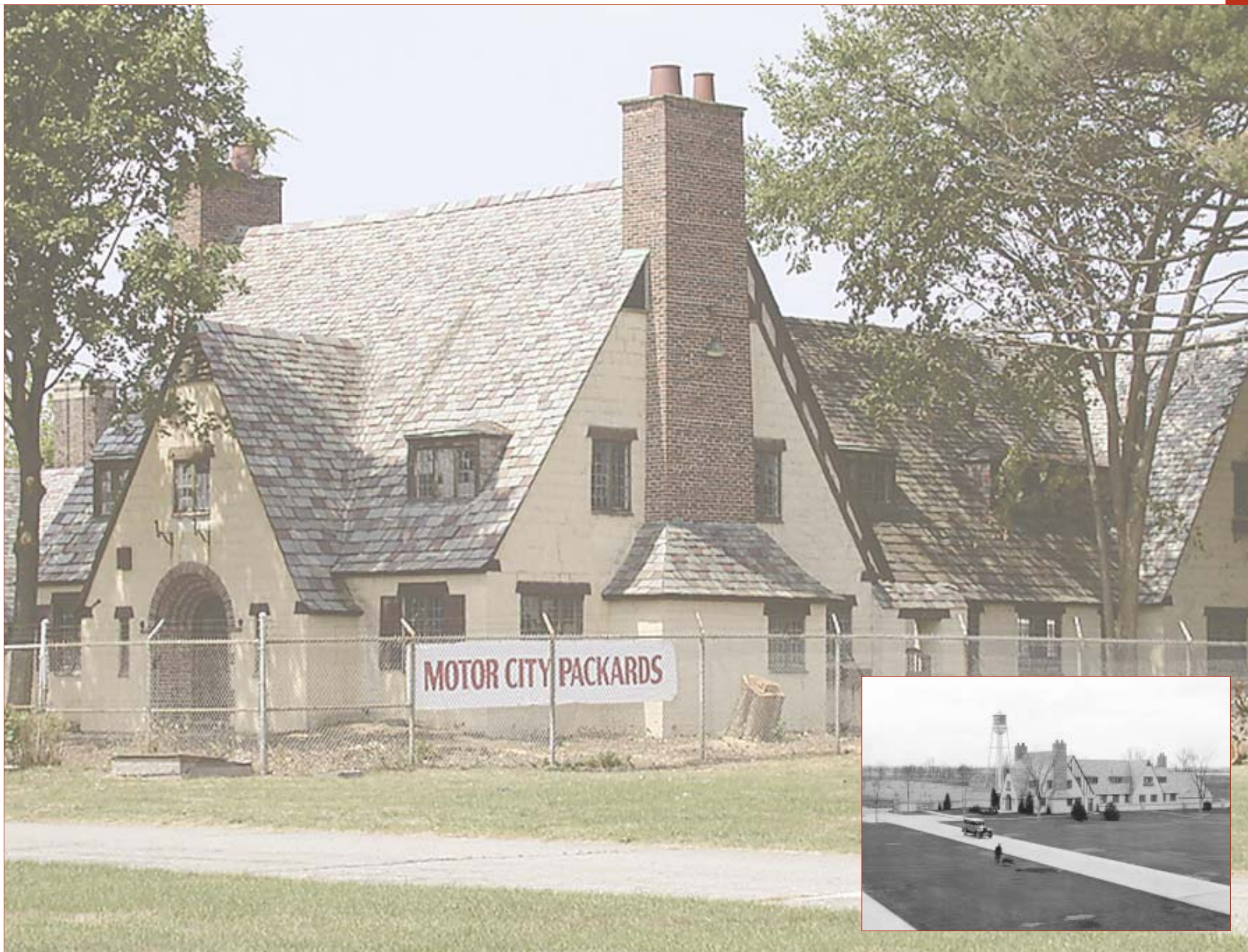


Packard Motor Car Foundation, the Ford Motor Land Development Corporation, and Shelby Township (Macomb County)

One of Michigan's most significant automotive heritage resources will be preserved as a result of collaboration between the organizations named above. Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the Packard Motor Car Company Proving Ground Testing Facility, with several buildings designed by renowned Detroit architect Albert Kahn, was dedicated in 1927 and includes a paved oval test track, several "off-road" test tracks, an entrance boulevard and gate, and a complex of buildings that includes a gate lodge, an engineering garage and a laboratory.

In June 2002 the Packard Motor Car Foundation (PMCF) signed a lease with the Ford Motor Land Development Corporation (FMLDC) to operate and maintain a portion of the former Packard Motor Car Company Proving Ground Testing Facility, in Shelby Township, Macomb County. Despite threats from development encroaching on the mile-square open parcel, the entire property remains largely unchanged from its original appearance. This lease agreement will preserve the core parcel and all of the historic buildings. Shelby Township officials have worked closely with FMLDC and PMCF to appropriately plan and zone the property for the benefit of the historic resources.

The unique partnership of corporate, nonprofit and local government entities is ensuring the future preservation of this valuable resource, promoting sensible land development and contributing to the economic well-being of the community.



Historic Preservation in Michigan